definition, diey do not count sand particles under foreign matter. In other words, inorganic matter, which is a part and parcel of foreign matter like sand, stones, pebbles clay particles etc. are not accepted under this category. The explanation given by diem was that only organic foreign matter (like chaff, glumes,weed seeds and other edible and inedible grains) are taken under this category. The exporters did not know tins position. They presumed tiiat, as in the CODEX standards, die *2%* foreign matter would include upto 0.5% inorganic matter. The delegation was further informed uiat die Iraqi flour mills were not having adequate facilities for separation of inorganic matter because of die problem of spare parts required for maintenance of such machines owing to UN sanctions. The delegation was further informed that Iraq had also rejected die wheat sourced from various other countries on die same grounds. As die consignment conformed to die CODEX standards, it was accepted in Dubai.

BPL population in Uttaranchal

† 3363. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) wheuier it is a fact tiiat die number of people living Below die Poverty Line in Uttaranchal is less as compared to those in die plain areas; and

(b) if so, die actual number and die percentage thereof alongwith the quantum of foodgrains being allocated to the S»ate under tiris head, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY pF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) The Planning Commission estimates die percentage and number of persons living below the poverty line at national and State level from die large sample survey data on consumer expenditure. The latest estimates of poverty are available for year 1999-2000 based on (die National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of die 55di Round. It gives die poverty estimate for die State of Uttar Pradesh. According to this, 31.15% of die total population of Uttar Pradesh is living below poverty line. The estimate of poverty separately for Uttaranchal is not available.

(b) For die purpose of allocation of foodgrains for BPL families under TPDS, Planning Commission's estimate percentage of BPL population for

the year 1993-94 have been adopted for the then undivided Uttar Pradesh including Uttaranchal at 40.85%. As per report received from the State Government, the number of families identified as living below the poverty line is 4,23,051 in Uttaranchal. The monthly allocation of foodgrains made to Uttranchal for the BPL population is as under:—

Wheat	6929 tonnes
Rice	3700 tonnes

Import of foodgrains

† 3364. DR. MAHESH CHANDRA SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has imported foodgrains during the current year;

(b) if so, the countries from which foodgrains have been imported alongwith the quantum of import made from each country and the prices thereof; and

(c) the details of the foodgrains exported if any, during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) to (c) No import of foodgrains has taken place so far on Government account during the current year. However, the detailed data of imports and exports (including those on non-government account) are available in the monthly/annual numbers of Foreign Trade Statistics of India published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

During the current year (upto 31.07.2001), PSUs/Agencies *viz.* STC, MMTC, PEC, NAFED, NCCF and MARKFED have exported 12.99 lakh MTs of wheat.

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† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.